

5/003/0077

## Images



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BRIGHAM CITY — Commission members recently directed county staff to draft a proposal to change zoning in western Box Elder County to allow a working gold mine.

Century Mining plans to reopen the mine northwest of Park Valley. Claims were filed on the property as long ago as the 1890s, but recent tests indicate the area is still viable for mining, owner Gary Gillespie, of Salt Lake City, said during a public hearing Nov. 7.

"We found ore and want to go for it," he said.

If approved, the zoning would change 235 acres from MU160, multiple use of 160-acre and larger parcels, to MGEX, which allows mining and excavation.

The mine was once large enough that it hosted a small town, Century City, home to a mill and 12 cabins for miners.

"Mining is the highest and best purpose of this land," Gillespie told the commission.

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